SUPPLY OF UMBRELLAS AND FOOT-WEAR TO ANCHAL PEONS

322. **Mr. George Panikulam** *(Irinjalakkuda):* Will Government be pleased to state.—
whether the Government have taken any steps to supply umbrella and sandals to Anchal delivery peons as is done in the British Postal Department?

Mr. B. V. K. Menon *(Joint Secretary to Government):*
Please see the answer given to question No. 278.

Mr. George Panikulam *(Irinjalakuuda):* How many Anchalmen are there in the Department?

Mr. B. V. K. Menon *(Joint Secretary to Government):* For the exact number I want notice.

Mr. George Panikulam *(Irinjalakkuda):* What will be the approximate cost to supply them?

Mr. B. V. K. Menon *(Joint Secretary to Government):* I want notice.

Mr. George Panikulam *(Irinjalakkuda):* Have the Government decided to supply them?

Mr. B. V. K. Menon *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Government have asked the Superintendent of Registration and Anchal to make provision in Part II of the budget allotment and if finances permit that will be taken up.

Mr. George Panikulam *(Irinjalakkuda):* It is hoped that it will be taken up.

Mr. B. V. K. Menon *(Joint Secretary to Government):* I too hope so.

Mr. T. A. Ramachadra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* May I know why this question which was put by the same member and the same answer was given two days back, is repeated here?

Mr. President: The question may be put by the Hon'ble Member himself.

Mr. George Panikulam *(Irinjalakkuda):* This question was sent before the last Council and I never know that that will be answered. The answer is for the last Council.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Are the Government aware that in British India Postal peons are supplied with uniforms—a particular kind of coat and also a turban?

Mr. B. V. K. Menon *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Yes.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Is anything similar given here?

Mr. B. V. K. Menon *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Yes.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Why can't Government supply them with some cheaper variety of hats instead of umbrella?

Mr. B. V. K. Menon *(Joint Secretary to Government):* I think umbrella will suit the purpose here better.

Mr. George Panikulam *(Irinjalakkuda):* It won't sufficiently protect them from the sun.

EXCISE SUB-INSPECTORS—SELECTION OF

323 **Mr. K. Narayana Menon** *(Mulakunnathukavu):* Will Government be pleased to state.—
whether the choice of Excise Sub-Inspectors recently had was made by the Diwan and the Excise Commissioner jointly interviewing the candidates present?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Yes.

EXCISE DUTY ON BETELNUT, TEA AND COFFEE

324. **Mr. Ephraim Ouseph** *(Narakkal):* Will Government be pleased to state.—
(*a*) the date of the levy of excise duty on betel-nut, tea and coffee;
(*b*) date of publishing rules for the working of the scheme of levy;
(*c*) has the Commissioner of Excise submitted proposals for its working;
(*d*) what is the strength of the staff sanctioned for the purpose.
(*e*) when were they sanctioned;
(*f*) when were they posted;
(*g*) what are the precautions taken to avoid leakage of non-duty paid betel-nut, tea and coffee till the posting of officers;
(*h*) whether any officer was deputed to study the working of the levy outside the State?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):*
(*a*) 1st April 1944.
(*b*) 8th November 1944.
(*c*) Yes.

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(*d*) Three Assistant Inspectors, 15 Sub-Inspectors, 18 Petty Officers and 36 Preventive peons for field work; and one accountant, 2 clerks and one peon for the Commissioner's Office.

(*e*) The posts were sanctioned on 25th November 1944.

(*f*) 29th January 1945.

(*g*) Necessary instructions were given to the regular Excise staff at strategic points. Also Betelnut merchants and Tea and coffee Estate owners were maintaining regular accounts.

(*h*) Yes. The Excise Commissioner went to the Madras Central Excise Collector's office and the Personal Assistant to the Commissioner went to the Palghat Central Excise Circle Inspector's office.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Vadakkancheri*): May I know when actually the collection of this Excise Duty was started?

Mr. C. J. Mathew (*Joint Secretary to Government*): After the appointment of the staff.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhthassan (*Vadakkancheri*): With regard to the retrospective effect given to the Proclamation, that is, taking it back from the 1st of April, may I know whether any collection of duty on the stock sold from 1st April up to the date on which the collections were made. What has been done with the balance?

Mr. C. J. Mathew (*Joint Secretary to Government*): Duty is levied on the nuts cured from 1st April onwards.

Mr. A. B. Salem (*Mattancheri*): May I know whether this duty also was imposed on tea and coffee without consulting this House?

Mr. C. J. Mathew (*Joint Secretary to Government*): Yes. Under the same Proclamation.

Mr. A. B. Salem (*Mattancheri*): Was there any urgent necessity as in the case of betelnut?

Mr. C. J. Mathew (*Joint Secretary to Government*): Yes. The same necessity as in the case of betelnut.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu (*Kunnamkulam*): May I know what has been done in the matter of the arecanuts exported to Mysore State?

Mr. C. J. Mathew (*Joint Secretary to Government*): That matter is under correspondence now.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: നവമ്പർ ഡിസമ്പർ എന്നീമാസങ്ങളിൽ ഏപ്രിലിനു മുമ്പുള്ള അടക്കയുടെ ടാക്സ് ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിലേക്കു പിരിക്കാതെ കയറ്റി അയച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. ജെ. മാത്യു: ഉണ്ടാകാം. പക്ഷെ, കച്ചവടക്കാർ പിരിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള സംഖ്യയിൽ ഏതാനുംഭാഗം ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിലേക്ക് വസൂലാക്കീട്ടുണ്ട്.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിനു പിരിഞ്ഞുകിട്ടാത്തതുകൊണ്ടാണോ കച്ചവടക്കാർ പിരിച്ചെടുത്തിട്ടുള്ളത്, അങ്ങിനെ പിരിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള സംഖ്യ എത്രയുണ്ട്?

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. ജെ. മാത്യു: ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിനു പിരിഞ്ഞുകിട്ടാഞ്ഞതുകൊണ്ടല്ല കച്ചവടക്കാർ പിരിച്ചെടുത്തത്. ഏകദേശം രണ്ടരലക്ഷം ഉറുപ്പികയോളം ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിനു് ആവകയിൽ കിട്ടിക്കഴിഞ്ഞു. ബാക്കി പിരിയാനുള്ളതിനെപ്പറ്റി അന്വേഷണം നടത്തുന്നുണ്ട്.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: നവമ്പർ ഡിസമ്പർ എന്നീമാസങ്ങളിൽ ഡ്യൂട്ടിപിരിക്കാതെ എത്ര അടക്ക കയറ്റി അയച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്?

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. ജെ. മാത്യു: കൃത്യമായി പറയുവാൻ നോട്ടീസ്സുവേണം.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: ഏപ്രിലിനുമുമ്പ് ഡ്യൂട്ടിപിരിക്കാതെ കയറ്റി അയച്ചിട്ടുള്ള അടക്ക എത്രയാണെന്നു കണക്കാക്കീട്ടുണ്ടോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. ജെ. മാത്യു: കണക്കാക്കീട്ടില്ല.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: അതിന്റെ ഡ്യൂട്ടിപിരിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ എന്നു ഗവമ്മെണ്ട് അന്വേഷിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ സി ജെ. മാത്യു: അന്വേഷിക്കുന്നുണ്ട്.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: അതിനെപ്പറ്റി അന്വേഷിക്കുവാൻ പോയതു് കമ്മീഷണരോ പേഴ്സനൽ അസിസ്റ്റാണ്ടോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. ജെ. മാത്യു: രണ്ടുപേരും പോയിട്ടുണ്ട്.

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. നാരായണമേനോൻ: കമ്മീഷണരും അസിസ്റ്റാണ്ടുകമ്മീഷണരും, ഒരാൾ പാലക്കാട്ടേക്കും ഒരാൾ മദ്രാസിലേക്കും പോയതു പഠിക്കുവാൻതന്നെയാണോ?

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മിസ്റ്റർ സി. ജെ. മാത്യു : സംഗതികൾ മനസ്സിലാക്കുവാനാണ്.

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. നാരായണമേനോൻ : മനസ്സിലാക്കിട്ടതന്നെയാണോ വന്നിരിക്കുന്നതു?

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. ജെ. മാത്യു : അതെ.

FOOD ADULTERATION CASES—VAKIL'S FEE—REQUEST OF THE TRICHUR MUNICIPALITY

325. Mr. C. V. Iyyu (*Kunnamkulam*): Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether the Trichur Municipality has passed any resolution requesting the Government to meet the Vakil's fee for Rs. 100 to be paid for the Vakil briefed by the Trichur Municipal Council for conducting the cases prosecuted by the Municipality against a few Trichur merchants under the Food Adulteration Act which was withdrawn under Government orders ;

(*b*) if so, the decision of the Government on the resolution of the Municipality ?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The request was disallowed.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* What was the result that prompted the Municipality to request this money from the Government ?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* The Municipality said that because the withdrawal was ordered without consulting them, they were not bound to bear the cost of the suit.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* May I know whether their case was that if they had been allowed to proceed with the case, the case would have ended in conviction.

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* No.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* May I know whether the Government has interfered in such cases in the case of any Municipality?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Govenent):* I want notice.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* May I know whether the Government think it is not their moral duty to pay this Rs. 100 because they interfered unnecessarily ?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* No. Government do not think so.

SPECIAL REVENUE OFFICER—GRADE OF PAY

326. Mr. K. R. Achyuthan *(Trichur-Ezhuvas):* Will Government be pleased to state the name and present grade of pay of the Special Revenue Officer and his previous grade and permanent post?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* Name Mr. K. Kumara Menon. Present grade Rs. 150—250. Previous grade Rs. 100—150. Permanent Post Additional Revenue Inspector, Ernakulam Town.

Mr. K. R. Achyutan (*Ezhuvas-Trichur*) : May I know, Sir, the pay of this officer's permanent post ?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu (*Diwan Peishkar*) : Rs. 60—80.

Mr. K. R. Achyutan *(Ezhuas-Trichur):* May I know why this officer was promoted over the heads of several others ?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* It is not a question of promoting over the heads of others. He was first put in charge of the acquisition when the demand was for the acquisition of 40 acres for naval purposes. Then he was given Rs. 80—100, because this was a work which had to be pushed on in the twinkling of an eye. We got an order and we had to finish it off in the course of a few days. He was selected because he was the best man. He worked very beautifully. And when the demand for acquisition for various military purposes came one after another and the work increased, his pay was raised from Rs. 100 to Rs. 150. Then again, almost the whole of the Venduruthi Island was acquired and other work in connection with military requisitions and other things had to be done. The work was really tremendous for one man and he was doing it to the satisfaction of all concerned. So, it was thought that he deserved this pay. I would consider that even this pay is insufficient for the work he does.

Mrs. Thankamma N. Menon *(Ernakulam-Women):* May I know whether this pay is given by the Government of India.

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* Yes.

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